

1 BEFORE THE ARKANSAS BOARD OF APPORTIONMENT

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13 BOARD MEETING

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24 ***** THE ABOVE-STYLED MATTER was reported
25 by Michelle R. Satterfield, CCR, LS Certificate No. 570,
at the Arkansas State Capitol, Room 151, Little Rock,
Arkansas, commencing on the 6th day of September, 2000,
at 8:00 a.m. *****

1 A P P E A R A N C E S

2 GOVERNOR MICHAEL D. HUCKABEE
3 SECRETARY OF STATE, SHARON PRIEST
4 ATTORNEY GENERAL, MARK B. PRYOR
5 Arkansas Board of Apportionment
6 Arkansas State Capitol
7 Little Rock, Arkansas

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GOVERNOR HUCKABEE: I think we're about ready to get started and underway. We have several things on the agenda to take care of. This is the meeting of the Revenue Tax Committee of the State Senate. We want to say, first of all, welcome to all of the folks who are here to talk. We will now officially call the meeting to order and let me just begin my saying how much we appreciate the participation of the various staff members from the offices of the Secretary of the State, Attorney General, and the Governor's office.

14 The process of redistricting is one of
15 the greatest challenges that we face under
16 our constitution, in terms of trying to do
17 everything we can to ensure the district
18 lines for house and senate districts are
19 aligned fairly and properly. Our ultimate
20 responsibility is not a political one. It's
21 a people one, and we really should be looking
22 at ways to ensure that representation is as
23 close to the people being represented as
24 possible.

25 I'm sure we're going to make some people

1 unhappy. That's part of the process.
2 Politics period. But what I think all of us
3 on this panel will strive to do, and I think
4 our staffs are committed to that, is to do
5 the best job we possibly can to draw
6 districts that are fair, that are favorable,
7 not to individual legislators or to
8 respective political parties, but that are
9 fair to the people who are being represented
10 and that, really, above everything else,
11 ought to be our mission, and I think we take
12 that very seriously.

13 We have several things to deal with.
14 I'd like to first call upon Secretary of
15 State Sharon Priest and then Attorney
16 General Mark Pryor to make any opening
17 comments they wish to make before we get into
18 the agenda.

19 SECRETARY OF STATE PRIEST: Thank you,
20 Governor. First of all, I have to tell you
21 that when I attended a session in Savannah
22 that the National Council of State
23 Legislators put on, the opening comments that
24 everybody made was, you will make lifelong
25 enemies during this process. So I think this

1 is one time when I can fairly speak for the
2 three of us here, hoping that we do not make
3 lifelong enemies in this room.

4 GOVERNOR HUCKABEE: Oh, we already have,
5 so it's nothing new.

6 SECRETARY OF STATE PRIEST: I can, say,
7 though, as the Governor already stated, that
8 it's been a very amicable relationship. The
9 staffs have been working together since
10 January and based on what I've overheard from
11 the meetings it sounds like they're really
12 having much too much fun and maybe we should
13 be part of their meetings and go with them
14 instead of have our own.

15 We've also been working with the
16 State Data Center who have been wonderful.
17 They have done an outstanding job for us.
18 Back in 1997, I realized in our office, that
19 the maps that we had, the legislative maps
20 that we had, were really not of much use. So
21 working with the Center for Advanced Special
22 Technology at the University of Arkansas at
23 Fayetteville, we were able to come up with
24 some house and senate district maps that I
25 think were much more helpful to everyone

1 concerned.

2 Now, I do want to say that the
3 technology has changed markedly over the last
4 ten years and will change again probably just
5 as dramatically, maybe more so, over the next
6 ten years. But it was the new technology
7 that has really helped us develop this new,
8 better-detailed maps.

9 We've been through Phase I and Phase II
10 of the census and we worked with the county
11 clerks and county election commissions doing
12 that. Phase I of the census was run. The
13 precinct lines within the house and senate
14 district lines. I can't say enough about the
15 State Data Center, Sara Brashears,
16 Phyllis Smith and Jerry Bell and all of the
17 hard work that they have done and I thank all
18 the counties for the work that they did
19 coming into Little Rock, coming to UALR and
20 drawing those lines on the map. Obviously,
21 they understood their counties much better
22 than we did and we felt it was important that
23 they do that because those precinct lines
24 were to be drawn on physical boundary lines
25 and township lines to make it a lot more

1 clear.

2 In 1999 then, I requested an
3 appropriation -- requested and received an
4 appropriation for \$500,000, plus two
5 positions, because I felt it was important
6 that we get the ball rolling. Some of that
7 money has obviously already been spent. We
8 worked with, again, CAST, as a consultant, to
9 help us to determine what software was
10 necessary for what we were doing and, again,
11 I want to reiterate that all three staffs
12 participated in that process.

13 We have purchased Arcview and AutoBound
14 as the software and we have also done
15 training for staffs of all three of our
16 offices and we have acquired space in the
17 Aegon Building across the street.

18 In the beginning -- at the beginning of
19 this year, because I believed it was critical
20 to the reapportionment process, I visited 75
21 counties in two and a half months, talking
22 about the importance of the census. Clearly,
23 it was critical to what we were doing in
24 terms of the redistricting process and it was
25 critical to our revenue here in the State.

1 It's estimated that we lost over \$280 million
2 over the last ten years because of an
3 undercount in the 1990 census, so now it's
4 sort of a broad view of the timetable. On
5 December 31st, the head of the Census Bureau
6 will deliver to the President, the population
7 numbers by state. Sometime after that, the
8 general assembly will receive the numbers and
9 we're not sure exactly when that's going to
10 happen. The general assembly and the Board
11 may receive the numbers at the same time.
12 The general assembly will proceed then to
13 draw the congressional district lines. Then
14 when we have our numbers, we will then
15 proceed to draw the house and senate lines.

16 I want you to know that we will have
17 very detailed information and that
18 information will also be translated to the
19 county election commissions because they also
20 have to deal with redistricting at the local
21 level.

22 Based on information from the Census
23 Bureau, projections of a population of about
24 2.6 million, the ideal house district will be
25 about 25,000. The ideal senate district

1 would be about 73,000. Of course, there's a
2 variance allowed in there, but that's an
3 issue that I'm going to -- it's a legal issue
4 I'm going to defer to General Pryor to
5 explain that one.

6 I also want to let you know that we have
7 a website. It's Everything You Wanted To
8 Know About Redistricting, But Were Afraid To
9 Ask. It's www.state.ar.us/arkdistrict, one
10 word. It's also linked to all three of our
11 websites. And for those folks in the State
12 who want to try their hand at redistricting,
13 the information, when available, will be
14 available on the Census Bureau's website at
15 census.gov.

16 Also, we want to -- we will be making
17 our software available to the general
18 assembly to help them with their process and
19 if somebody is out there and purchases
20 AutoBound and Arcview, we will be happy to
21 display any of their district plans on our
22 website. I do want to emphasize the point,
23 though, that this is not a vote. Just
24 because we put it out there, doesn't mean
25 we've accepted it. It's an opportunity for

1 us to get additional input as to how people
2 are thinking their district lines ought to be
3 drawn. Just because it may be perfect for
4 this area, doesn't mean it's perfect for
5 another area and if you move a line here,
6 it's almost setting off like dominoes, as
7 they start falling, because then you have to
8 start redrawing the lines everywhere.

9 And I guess, finally, the last thing I'd
10 like to say is we three are elected. It is
11 our goal to please people. We're not setting
12 out to make anybody angry. We want to come
13 up with something that is fair and the best
14 thing for all of the people in the State
15 because this is, after all, our democracy and
16 it will be the blueprint for how the people
17 of Arkansas are represented over the next
18 ten-year period. Thank you.

19 ATTORNEY GENERAL PRYOR: Thank you,
20 Governor. Thank you, Madame Secretary. It's
21 great to be here today. I was thinking about
22 the Apportionment Board over the last few
23 days, about really the task at hand, and it's
24 a sobering task because, when you think about
25 the Apportionment Board, it is a

1 constitutional board. It's in the State
2 Constitution, Article 8. Arkansas is unique
3 in the way that we reapportion or redistrict
4 our state legislative districts. We're the
5 only state in the union that does it this
6 way. Most states probably use the
7 legislative process or some other specialized
8 commission, but in Arkansas, I guess it makes
9 sense that we have a Chief Executive Officer
10 and a Chief Elections Officer and the Chief
11 Legal Officer all sit down and try to work
12 out these details that are so important.

13 The Apportionment Board is also strange
14 in that it only convenes once a decade and
15 none of us have a lot of history with this.
16 There's a lot of legend and maybe tradition
17 that gets repeated, but really we're all new
18 to this, but the task at hand is absolutely
19 sacred to our democracy.

20 The most precious right that we have as
21 Americans and as Arkansans is the right to
22 vote, and also the right to be represented in
23 our government and that is what this process
24 is all about. The right to vote and the
25 right to be represented in our government.

1 So whether you're from Magnolia or Rogers or
2 Jonesboro, either rich or poor, black, white,
3 Hispanic, republican, democrat, it doesn't
4 matter. We all have the right to be heard in
5 this building. And, again, that's really
6 what we're talking about today. That's our
7 charge and it is a matter of great public
8 trust.

9 Let me just share with the Board a
10 little bit about my philosophy of how I want
11 to approach this. It's pretty simple. I
12 think first and foremost, you know, my
13 responsibility, along with yours, is to
14 follow the law, to be fair, and to do our
15 best to do what's right. I was in the
16 legislature in 1991 when the last
17 redistricting happened and I'm going to tell
18 you right now, that is a tough political
19 process. It's going to be tough on all of us
20 because every mayor, every county judge,
21 every legislator, every chamber of commerce,
22 every local newspaper editor, they all
23 believe that they have the right ideas on
24 redistricting and they'll all be tugging on
25 us during this process and we have to wade

1 through all that and try to diffuse the
2 politics and, like I said, just follow the
3 law, be fair, and try to do the right thing.

4 Let me anticipate a couple of questions
5 I think the press may have about the Freedom
6 of Information Act and how it applies to this
7 Board. It does apply, and the people do have
8 a right to know, not only when we meet, but
9 what we talk about and I think it's kind of
10 an interesting system we have here. When we
11 sit down, the three of us, like we have
12 today, to talk about reapportionment and
13 redistricting, we are magically transformed
14 from three constitutional officers into a
15 constitutional board and it's part of our
16 dual nature. Governor, you know how that is
17 in the bible. There's dual natures in the
18 bible and -- or a dual nature in the bible;
19 and, likewise, in our office we talk a lot
20 about dual natures of public officials, where
21 they can be sued in their official capacity
22 or personal, individual capacity. But here
23 we are; we do have a dual nature and that is
24 we're constitutional officers, but we are now
25 part of this constitutional board that has

1 now been officially convened by the Governor
2 and the FOI does apply to that. In fact,
3 it's my opinion that if any two of us, any
4 combination of two of us, talk about the
5 business of apportionment, the FOI applies to
6 that. It's a two-member meeting. Any two of
7 us, if we ever meet, we have a quorum; we can
8 conduct business. So we just need to be
9 mindful of that and I know that I've been
10 very, very careful in the last almost 20
11 months now not to visit with either of these
12 two about any specifics on reapportionment.

13 I think another question that the press
14 may have or the people may have is, you know,
15 what is my philosophy, or how will I vote on
16 specific issues? I just can't say that yet.
17 It's too early. We don't have all the
18 numbers. And, also, I think that's one
19 reason why we're going to go around the State
20 and have these public hearings to find out
21 what the people want, how they want us to
22 handle some of these difficult topics that we
23 have at hand.

24 And with that, I'd just like to say that
25 at the end of the meeting, I'll be glad to

1 answer questions, but we have a long agenda
2 and, Governor, with that, I'll turn it back
3 over to you.

4 GOVERNOR HUCKABEE: Thank you,
5 Mr. Attorney General, Secretary of State. We
6 clearly, I think, have all articulated today
7 that we know and recognize, going into this,
8 this is somewhat of a messy process and there
9 will be a lot of controversy, I'm sure, as
10 people have various interests, but it was
11 either this or hiring Regis Philbin to come
12 and do a version of who wants to be an
13 apportionnaire. So this is the best we got
14 and it's what the law says and we're going to
15 give it our best shot and we hope that as you
16 join with us in participating, that the net
17 result is a process that everybody may not
18 love, or even appreciate, in terms of what it
19 means to them personally, but they will
20 believe that the process was fair and carried
21 out with integrity.

22 I do want to make note of this, that
23 anyone who speaks, I've been asked to
24 instruct you, if you would, not only speak
25 into a microphone, where you can be heard

1 more clearly, but also if you will state your
2 name, your address or your hometown, who you
3 are for the court reporter. If you'd like to
4 give credit card information, that will be
5 accepted as well. I'll leave that up to you.

6 Our first item of business is to
7 introduce the reapportionment office staff
8 and the staff members representing each of us
9 as board members. I'll begin by introducing
10 the people on my staff that will be working
11 on the process and then Secretary of State
12 Priest and Attorney General Pryor will then
13 introduce their staff members who are here
14 today.

15 The coordinator from our office is going
16 to be our Chief Legal Counsel, Butch Reeves.
17 He will be joined by Ted Thomas,
18 Beth Ann Rankin, Greg Kirkpatrick, and
19 Christie Rogers from our staff.

20 SECRETARY OF STATE PRIEST: And from my
21 staff, my General Counsel, Tim Humphries;
22 Government Affairs Director, Ron Maxwell; and
23 the Reapportionment Office Coordinator is Ron
24 Sheffield. And also working sort of with
25 them will be David Geer and Shanacee Jarrett.

1 ATTORNEY GENERAL PRYOR: And I have
2 Larry Crane and Tristen Green, and in the
3 back of the room there is my Chief of Staff,
4 Darrin Williams.

5 GOVERNOR HUCKABEE: The next item of
6 business is a discussion on the timetable for
7 redistricting and the public comment schedule
8 to be carried out this fall and for that I'd
9 like to call upon Ron Sheffield who will lead
10 that discussions.

11 MR. SHEFFIELD: Thank you, Governor.
12 Very quickly, Secretary Priest has addressed
13 most of the timetable issues for
14 redistricting and I think I can combine both
15 presentations I have into one and shorten it
16 somewhat. But if you could look at the
17 screen for the public hearings. We are in
18 the process of scheduling public hearings
19 throughout the State of Arkansas starting in
20 early November and running through December
21 the 14th. There a couple of dates that we do
22 not have confirmed at this time, but we are
23 working on those, and anyone that wishes to
24 is more than welcome to join us and bring
25 comment upon the issues of redistricting and

1 any plans.

2 This will be our first round of
3 hearings. We intend to have two rounds of
4 hearings throughout the State of Arkansas.
5 One prior to receiving the data from the
6 Census Bureau, and then a meeting after we've
7 gotten the data and have started to work on
8 the plans.

9 The timetable for redistricting, again,
10 is on our site, and rather than relate all of
11 that information to you, it's easily
12 accessible by reading the site. Some of the
13 dates have already come and gone, as you can
14 see, such as the census date, but we carried
15 it a little further, so that people will know
16 the effect of redistricting, as to the first
17 primary after the redistricting, the first
18 general election, so that those individuals
19 who may be running for office will have a
20 clear idea of the timetables.

21 And the other portion that I had was
22 basically a presentation of our website. We
23 are in the process of -- it's under
24 construction every day, if you would, of --
25 you've seen the public hearings page and I

1 would suggest that you may want to check that
2 from time to time because if we receive
3 information that an area of the State would
4 like to have a public hearing in that
5 particular area, that we may miss or it's too
6 far for someone to travel where we have a
7 scheduled meeting, we will schedule, yet,
8 another meeting to accommodate those
9 individuals.

10 On our website, we have a public comment
11 page where anyone who wishes to make comment,
12 send us ideas, send us a copy of a map, just
13 tell us how great we are because we're
14 servants of the public, we will take those
15 comments and will let the world know that we
16 are about the State's business.

17 The other page I would like to show you
18 is the resources and links page. Anyone who
19 wants to can gather whatever data that we
20 available to us. These are basically all of
21 the sources of information that we will be
22 using during this process. The census bureau
23 page, you can go onto that page -- and just a
24 very quick run through, you can go to the
25 county pages. If you want to get an idea of

1 how much Arkansas has grown by county, you
2 can go to this page and you can see on the
3 far right-hand column, the percentages of
4 population change by each county. Now, that
5 is an estimate since 1990 until 1999, but,
6 again, it will give you some idea of just
7 some of the information that's available to
8 us all on this site. We have CAST, the
9 Center For Advanced Special Technology, the
10 State Data Center's website, and if there are
11 other organizations that have data that you
12 feel we should have on this site, please let
13 me know, and if there's a link to that site
14 that would be helpful, we may well include
15 that on our site.

16 On the maps, we have the current
17 districts as they are and the county maps
18 and, unfortunately, to open it now, it takes
19 a little time to download, so I won't do
20 that, but if you wanted to see exactly what
21 the districts look like today, you can go to
22 this site and open it up and you will be able
23 to view the maps.

24 One last area is to -- well, it's all in
25 the same page -- view new maps. As the maps

1 are made, they will be on the website for
2 anybody who wishes to go in and review them
3 and, again, the website address as
4 Madame Secretary has told you is
5 www.state.ar.us/arkdistrict. That's all I
6 have.

7 GOVERNOR HUCKABEE: Ron, thank you. An
8 excellent report. I think it's pretty
9 apparent to all of us that we are very
10 blessed to be in the age of technology, as
11 opposed to people who in previous attempts at
12 this had, at best, rather cumbersome
13 software, if any, and in the distant past,
14 did nothing more than look at maps and sit
15 around with large tablets of paper and try to
16 work through this. I can't even begin to
17 imagine how daunting a task that would be.

18 But, clearly, the technology revolution
19 that has affected everything else is going to
20 have a dramatic impact upon our capacity, not
21 only to draw these lines, but to draw them,
22 and with a single key stroke, determine all
23 of the implications of moving a boundary. So
24 I do think it's going to mean that there will
25 be a greater level of public participation, a

1 greater level of input that will make sense
2 to all of us and, quite frankly, there's
3 going to be an incredible higher level of
4 accountability that we've never had before
5 because people can log in and see exactly
6 what's going on and I think that's going to
7 be very significant.

8 Richard Bell, the IT Director for the
9 Secretary of State, I'll call upon him now
10 for a discussion of the software and
11 equipment for the process.

12 MR. BELL: Thank you, Governor, and the
13 Board. I promise to keep the acronyms to a
14 minimum. I'll talk very briefly about where
15 we are with the technology, what's going on,
16 and most of the points, fortunately for me,
17 have been covered. You know about the
18 software. Each one of the constitutional
19 offices currently has a computer that has
20 been acquired specifically for the
21 redistricting process. I can't speak
22 specifically about where they are with
23 computers. I can say that the computers are
24 there. I'm very pleased about that. For
25 those that are curious, our Pentium III's,

1 they are -- as time goes on, we will have
2 this information out on the web page, but
3 it's also the same sort of machine that we
4 would recommend to the general public, if
5 they intend to acquire the AutoBound software
6 and Arcview to do their own version of the
7 map.

8 The computers that will be -- there will
9 also be computers over in the Aegon Building
10 that will be used for this process. I want
11 to emphasis that those computers will be
12 totally separate from any of the -- any of
13 the networks that exist for the
14 constitutional offices. Once again, those
15 computers are solely for the use of the
16 redistricting staff and their designees. We
17 will have a server there, and I think most of
18 us know what those are; that will warehouse
19 the information. That is the maps that have
20 drawn up to that point, along with the census
21 data. It will be Internet access or I should
22 say Internet capable. That is, we'll have
23 Internet access connected to the server.
24 We'll also be very capable of accepting and
25 sending e-mail.

1 We will be using sort of the latest
2 technology in communicating with the
3 respective offices and nothing that will be
4 new, so to speak, that requires the
5 constitutional officers to spend money, as
6 much as ensuring that we have a secure
7 connection that can't be tampered or
8 intercepted by someone who is not authorized
9 within, once again, that working group.

10 And that brings up security. I want to
11 briefly mention that I realize that hackers
12 and e-mail viruses have garnered a lot of
13 attention as of late. We will exercise all
14 due caution and, certainly, protection
15 against such intrusions or malicious damage.
16 We will have a firewall in place that will
17 prevent any unauthorized access. And with
18 respect to access, like anything else, the
19 users of the redistricting system will be --
20 have a unique ID and password. Once again,
21 we're going to ask that they take good care
22 of that, but certainly we can monitor who has
23 access to the information. We're not
24 attempting to limit that, I might add.

25 With respect to public accessibility,

1 once again, the public will be able to view
2 the maps as they become available on the
3 Internet. We will certainly work to make
4 those maps -- or put the maps together in
5 such a form that it makes it easier to
6 download. I listened to some complaints some
7 time ago about our early house and senate
8 maps taking forever to download off of the
9 Internet and we're sensitive to that, so I
10 want you to understand that we will make that
11 process as painless as possible. And,
12 certainly, if someone wants to call up and
13 request a map on a CD, we'll be able to
14 accommodate them with that need.

15 Also, we'll be able to, as you've
16 already heard, accept information via the
17 Internet. If someone develops a map using,
18 once again, the AutoBound software, they are
19 able to send that map to us via the Internet.
20 We will put it in a secure place, so to
21 speak, make sure we haven't been sent
22 something we shouldn't have that could damage
23 the system, but certainly make that
24 available.

25 And, once again, we do have e-mail for

1 any public comment. As we develop things,
2 from a technology standpoint for the office,
3 we'll keep you abreast of those developments
4 via the Internet. Thank you.

5 GOVERNOR HUCKABEE: Thank you, Richard.
6 The next item on the agenda is the approval
7 of establishing the redistricting office in
8 Room 102 of the Aegon Building and I want to
9 just express appreciation to Sharon Priest
10 and her staff for helping to locate a
11 facility. They really carried this primary
12 load on this particular effort and we'll
13 entertain a motion to officially approve the
14 office you've already acquired over there.
15 Do we have a motion and a second? Not a
16 whole lot of vision up here, but if all in
17 favor would say, aye.

18 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

19 GOVERNOR HUCKABEE: Any opposed?
20 Miraculously, the motion carries after a
21 lengthy and heated debate. We're now open
22 for questions. If anyone would like to raise
23 a question or present items for discussion,
24 we will entertain that at this time. If
25 you'll simply indicate you wish to be

1 recognized by uplifted hand, and if you'll
2 approach the microphone and remember to state
3 your name and something about yourself for
4 the court reporter. The chair recognizes
5 Representative Olan Cook.

6 REPRESENTATIVE COOK: I'm
7 Representative Olan Cook from Russellville and
8 I've got two questions and you probably don't
9 want to answer either one of them, but I'll
10 give them to you.

11 GOVERNOR HUCKABEE: That's why these
12 guys are here.

13 REPRESENTATIVE COOK: First of all, I've
14 been hearing that we will not have precinct
15 data until around April. If that is the
16 case, what does that mean about house and
17 senate districts, in terms of the session
18 itself, the process?

19 SECRETARY OF STATE PRIEST: It's correct
20 that April 1st is the drop-dead date by the
21 Census Bureau to get us the data. The data
22 will come to us, actually, by census block,
23 so we will know everything we probably didn't
24 want to know about you by census block and
25 everybody on there. Now, in terms of -- I'm

1 not sure --

2 REPRESENTATIVE COOK: Well, what I'm
3 saying is, normally, if we adjourn the early
4 part of April, if we don't get information
5 until the 1st of April, we don't have as much
6 time to fight, you see?

7 SECRETARY OF STATE PRIEST: Well, I
8 guess that means that you might have to have
9 a special session.

10 REPRESENTATIVE COOK: That's the
11 question I'm wondering about.

12 SECRETARY OF STATE PRIEST: Hopefully --
13 I'm hopeful that we will get the information
14 that you will need --

15 REPRESENTATIVE COOK: Before that.

16 SECRETARY OF STATE PRIEST: -- before
17 that.

18 REPRESENTATIVE COOK: Okay. That's
19 good.

20 The other one I have is how much
21 emphasis will you place on county lines as
22 you draw lines, or will you place none?

23 GOVERNOR HUCKABEE: And I think it's one
24 of those questions that we don't know until
25 we get into it.

1 REPRESENTATIVE COOK: My people have an
2 interest in this.

3 GOVERNOR HUCKABEE: Sure. And I would
4 honestly tell you, and I say this publicly in
5 many occasions, my personal goal, and I can't
6 speak for the other two members, is that the
7 county lines would be the most logical
8 beginning place. It makes it easier for a
9 representative to deal with a fewer number of
10 county judges and/or county officials and
11 boundaries, than having them stretched like a
12 strip of bacon across twelve counties. And
13 from my perspective, again, the primary goal
14 is giving people representation as close to
15 their representative as is possible and
16 giving that representative the capacity to
17 really represent his or her district.
18 There's nothing worse than having a
19 representative's district where one
20 representative has to travel 100 miles from
21 one end to the other and another one has a
22 twelve block area.

23 REPRESENTATIVE COOK: Well, one of the
24 reasons I say this, my county has six
25 different house districts in it. The theory

1 is that we have six people representing us,
2 but the theory really is -- really, the
3 actual information is they have one, myself,
4 so that's why that's important to us.

5 GOVERNOR HUCKABEE: It's a very good
6 point and I think one that we're going to be
7 very sensitive to. Representative Broadway.

8 REPRESENTATIVE BROADWAY: Thank you,
9 Governor and Members of the Board. I guess
10 just a point of clarification on our part to
11 Representative Cook's question in terms of
12 the January 1st date, in which the President
13 will receive the actual numbers, when we will
14 receive -- for the basis of what we have to
15 do, in terms of drawing congressional
16 district boundaries, when we will receive the
17 county-by-county information? I guess, is
18 that more -- in terms of what we will be
19 doing -- in terms of what we will be doing,
20 we won't be going down to that level. We
21 just need -- we will need the county
22 information. Our hope, I guess, is to keep
23 it on county lines, but --

24 SECRETARY OF STATE PRIEST: We, again,
25 anticipate that the drop-dead date is

1 April 1, however, we anticipate the
2 county-by-county information will come
3 earlier.

4 REPRESENTATIVE BROADWAY: Thank you,
5 Mr. Chairman.

6 GOVERNOR HUCKABEE: Other questions.
7 Representative, soon to be, Senator Faris.

8 SENATOR-ELECT FARIS: Thank you,
9 Governor. I apologize for being late. I was
10 tied up in the traffic. Someone had a flat
11 and everybody had to watch it on the
12 interstate.

13 I did want to ask one question. Ten
14 years ago I was involved in this because I
15 was working for a member of the board at the
16 time and one of the things that went very
17 well was that the Board of Apportionment then
18 chose to work collectively together on one
19 plan and to kind of mold it and shape it, you
20 know, as geographics dictated and I was
21 wondering maybe if that was the attitude --
22 and this is open for anyone, this question.
23 But maybe if that was the approach the Board
24 might be thinking about taking this time.

25 GOVERNOR HUCKABEE: Once again, I don't

1 think that we've established the parameters,
2 other than we've all agreed that with this
3 software that we have available, it's a very
4 different kind of process than we've had
5 because we literally can share, in real time,
6 constant changes and revisions. We can do it
7 from anywhere and that's going to be
8 something that we've never had the ability to
9 do in the past. I anticipate there's going
10 to be, you know, a constant revision of this,
11 with input from all of us and our staffs and,
12 again, members of the general assembly and
13 members of the public. Sharon, or, Mark, do
14 you want to comment on that?

15 SENATOR-ELECT FARIS: And the reason for
16 the question, Governor, is just ten years
17 before, in 1980, every member -- and I think
18 the previous apportionment before that too
19 had three different plans and they are were
20 all drastically different and it caused just
21 a lot of confusion and ill-feelings. And I
22 agree with you that the technology is such
23 now that you could probably all mesh it
24 together and if everybody can agree, and I
25 know there will be disagreements too, but

1 that one plan with all members and their
2 staffs working collectively saved a lot of
3 chaos back in '90. Thank you.

4 GOVERNOR HUCKABEE: I think that's our
5 goal, anyway, and it should be achievable
6 because, unlike it was in the past, as I
7 understand, only one set of software and the
8 others had to sort of develop their plan and
9 go and input it into the software. Everyone
10 has the software this time, and this is the
11 first time ever that all of three of us will
12 have equal access to the information, to the
13 software, and to the hardware, as well, which
14 we've never had before.

15 Any other questions or any other
16 comments that anyone wishes to make at this
17 time? We don't want to limit the discussion,
18 but we don't want to hold you unnecessarily.
19 All right. If there is no further questions
20 or comments, then this meeting will be
21 adjourned.

22 (Whereupon, at 8:48 a.m., the
23 above Board Meeting concluded.)

24

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1 C E R T I F I C A T E

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STATE OF ARKANSAS

3

ss.

COUNTY OF FAULKNER

4

5 RE: ARKANSAS BOARD OF APPORTIONMENT BOARD MEETING

6

7 I, MICHELLE R. SATTERFIELD, CCR, a Notary
8 Public in and for Faulkner County, Arkansas, do hereby
9 certify that the transcript of the foregoing deposition
10 accurately reflects the testimony given; and that the
11 foregoing was transcribed by or under my supervision, on
my Eclipse computerized transcription system from my
machine shorthand notes taken at the time and place set
out on the caption hereto, the witness having been duly
cautioned and sworn, or affirmed, to tell the truth, the
whole truth and nothing but the truth.

12 I FURTHER CERTIFY that I am neither counsel
13 for, related to, nor employed by any of the parties to
14 the action which this proceeding was taken; and, further
15 that I am not a relative or employee of any attorney or
counsel employed by the parties hereto, nor financially
interested, otherwise, in the outcome of this action.

16 In accordance with the Arkansas Rules of Civil
17 Procedure, Rule 30(e), review of the foregoing
transcript by the witness was not requested by the
deponent or any party thereto.

18 GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF OFFICE on this
19 11th day of September, 2000.

20

Michelle R. Satterfield, CCR
LS Certificate No. 570
Notary Public in and for
Faulkner County, Arkansas

23

My commission expires: March 15, 2009.

24

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